

What is claimed is:

1. A seat frame assembly for compactly folding a motor vehicle seat, the seat frame assembly comprising:

at least one side frame member;

an actuator operatively coupled to the side frame member;

an elongated control arm operatively coupled to the side frame member for movement between a stowed position generally parallel and adjacent the side frame member and a support position spaced from the side frame member; and

a linkage assembly coupled between the control arm and the actuator for moving the control arm between the stowed position and support position in response to actuation of the actuator.

2. The seat frame assembly of claim 1 wherein the linkage assembly comprises a first link fixedly secured to the actuator, a second link fixedly secured to the control arm, and a link pin pivotally securing the first link to the second link for interconnecting the actuator and the control arm.

3. The seat frame assembly of claim 2 including a pivot pin associated with the actuator and operatively coupled to the first link member.

4. The seat frame assembly of claim 2 wherein the first link pivotally attaches to the at least one side frame member for moving the control arm between the supporting and stowed positions.

5. The seat frame assembly of claim 4 wherein the second link pivots about the first link towards the stowed direction in response to pivotal movement of the first link about the side frame member towards the supporting direction, and wherein the second link pivots about the

first link towards the supporting direction in response to pivotal movement of the first link about the side frame member towards the stowed direction.

6. The seat frame assembly of claim 2 wherein the at least one side frame member includes an upper stop for limiting pivotal movement of the first link about the at least one side frame member in the stowed direction.

7. The seat frame assembly of claim 2 wherein the at least one side frame member includes a lower stop for limiting pivotal movement of the first link about the at least one side frame member in the supporting direction.

8. The seat frame assembly of claim 1 including a lower cross member attached to and extending from the at least one side frame member.

9. The seat frame assembly of claim 8 wherein the control arm pivotally attaches to the lower cross member, the control arm pivoting about the lower cross member during movement between the stowed and support positions.

10. The seat frame assembly of claim 8 including an upper cross member spaced from and generally parallel to the lower cross member and extending from the at least one side frame member.

11. The seat frame assembly of claim 10 including a pair of support rods spaced from and generally parallel to the at least one side frame member, the support rods extending between the lower cross member and the upper cross member.

12. The seat frame assembly of claim 1 including a plate fixedly secured to the at least one side frame member, the plate operatively contacting the control arm wherein movement of the control arm between the stowed and support positions causes concurrent movement of the plate.

13. The seat frame assembly of claim 12 wherein the plate extends between a lower end pivotally secured to a lower cross member and an upper end fixedly secured to the at least one side member.
14. The seat frame assembly according to claim 13 wherein the upper end of the plate includes a slot formed therein for receiving a connection pin to secure the plate to the at least one side frame, the slot allowing the upper end to move along the pin as the lower end pivots about the lower cross member.
15. The seat frame assembly of claim 13 wherein the plate defines a plurality of lateral fingers, the plurality of lateral fingers separated from each other by openings and wherein the plurality of lateral fingers extends from the lower end of the plate to the upper end of the plate.
16. The seat frame assembly of claim 11 including a wrap encasing the plate defining a side bolster section of the seat assembly.
17. The seat frame assembly of claim 16 wherein the wrap includes a sleeve adapted to receive one of the support rods therethrough.
18. The seat frame assembly of claim 1 wherein the actuator comprises an armrest.